47. Mr. Ryan was on privilege leave from 5th to 29th October, during which period Mr. Hight held charge of the Divisional Office, Bijápur, in addition to that of Dhárwár.

48. Mr. Murray went on privilege leave for three months, on the 9th October 1891, and relinquished charge of the Belgaum Division to Mr. Gleadow. When the former resumed his charge the latter proceeded to Dhárwár and there received charge of the Divisional Office from Mr. Hight, who went on 3 months' privilege leave on the 28th January 1892.

49. Mr. G. K. Betham handed over charge of the Kolába Divisional Office to Mr. Thánedár on the 21st May and proceeded on sick leave. The latter was relieved of the charge by Mr. Greatheed on 1st July 1891.

50. Mr. Oliver, who was on special duty connected with the demarcation of *dalhi* lands in Kolába, availed himself of 6 months' leave on private affairs from the 9th May 1891, and on return he was posted to the Northern Circle.

51. The only change in the *personnel* occurred in the Kolába Division, where 2 foresters and 60 guards were added to the establishment at a monthly cost of Rs. 533, with the two ranges of Karjat and Khálápur which were transferred from the Northern to the Southern Circle.

52. The cost of establishment of the Southern Circle during 1891-92 amounted to Rs. 2,67,816 against Rs. 2,66,529 of the year before.

53. A Committee assembled at Bombay in March 1891, composed of the Inspector-General of Forests to the Government of India, the Conservator of Forests, Bengal, and several officers of this Presidency, to discuss the reorganization proposals of the subordinate staff, submitted by the Committee which sat at Poona during the rains of 1889. The original proposals were subjected to a further reduction. In consequence of this, revised proposals were called for in Government Resolution No. 4964 of 21st July 1891. These were submitted in December 1891.

BREACHES OF THE LAW.

54. The number of prosecutions instituted is as follows :—

Division.	1890-91.	1891-92.
Northern Division of Kánara	17	21
Central Division of Kánara	8	20
Southern Division of Kánara	18	103
Belgaum	49	36
Dhárwár	15	7
Bijápur	11	8
Kolába	49	122
Ratnágiri	27	29
Total ...	194	346

55. The number disposed of by Magistrates is :—

No.	Divisions.	1890-91.			1891-92.			Percentage of failures.	
		Cases in which conviction was obtained.	Cases in which conviction failed.	Total.	Cases in which conviction was obtained.	Cases in which conviction failed.	Total.	1890-91.	1891-92.
1	Northern Division, Kánara ..	14	3	17	10	11	21	18	52
2	Central do. do. ..	8	1	9	16	4	20	11	20
3	Southern do. do. ..	7	10	17	5	2	7	59	28
4	Belgaum	31	21	52	27	12	39	40	31
5	Dhárwár	12	3	15	6	1	7	20	14
6	Bijápur	7	3	10	8	...	8	30	...
7	Kolába	44	6	50	103	19	122	12	16
8	Ratnágiri	23	4	27	21	7	28	15	25
	Total ...	146	51	197	196	56	252	26	22

56. The number of cases which remained awaiting trial at the close of the year under report was 105 against 11 of the year before.

57. The increase in the number of prosecutions is met with chiefly in the Southern and Central Divisions of Kánara and in Kolába.

58. In Central Kánara and Kolába the increase was, respectively, due to illicit cutting of reserved kinds of trees for *ráb* and to illicit cultivation of *dalhi*. In the former Division there were 11 *ráb* cases.

59. In the Southern Division of Kánara the increase amounted to 85, and it was owing to garden cultivators, in defiance of orders, having pollarded reserved kinds of trees for *soppu*. No less than 97 of these *soppu* cases were pending at the close of the year under report. The Divisional Forest Officer reports that these offences were of so grave a nature that proceedings were delayed till the Assistant Collector visited the táluka.

60. One case was again let off in Siddápur, because the Magistrate held that prosecution was not legal till the forests had been settled. The case was sent to the District Magistrate for trial on the strength of the opinion of the Remembrancer for Legal Affairs (Government Resolution No. 6728, dated 24th September 1890), but that officer referred it to Government (Resolution No. 6425, dated 18th September 1891).

61. The speedy settlement of the Siddápur forests and the remaining villages in Sirsi is urgently called for, as by the last quoted Government Resolution, Mr. Woodrow says, forest protection is at present almost at a stand-still. "Nearly the whole of the Siddápur Táluka," he adds, "is occupied by garden cultivators, the jungles are already to a great extent destroyed, and as we can at present do nothing to save them from further destruction an early settlement is the only chance of there being any forests, except evergreens."

62. The large percentage of failures in the Northern Division of Kánara was owing to certain cases of theft of wood in "Reserved" forests, in which the offenders refused to pay compensation under Section 67 of the Forest Act, and were, therefore, taken into Court.

63. Details of cases of misappropriation of timber and minor produce, as required by Government letter No. 6881, dated the 29th August 1892, are given in Statement 50A, appended.

64. The cases dealt with under Section 67 of the Forest Act were as shown in the following statement:—

No.	Divisions.	1890-91.				1891-92.			
		Total number of cases disposed of.	Number of cases compounded.	Number discharged.	Amount of compensation recovered in cases compounded.	Total number of cases disposed of.	Number of cases compounded.	Number discharged.	Amount of compensation recovered in cases compounded.
					Rs.				Rs.
1	Northern Division of Kánara ...	22	21	1	196	8	8	...	49
2	Central Division of Kánara ...	56	53	3	157	61	60	1	197
3	Southern Division of Kánara ...	98	98	...	299	45	45	...	91
4	Belgaum	361	361	...	248	210	210	...	351
5	Dhárwár	52	52	...	138	65	65	...	180
6	Bijápur	76	76	...	261	49	49	..	215
7	Kolába	266	266	...	1,033	167	167	..	546
8	Ratnágiri	121	121	...	420	199	199	...	587
	Total ...	1,052	1,048	4	2,752	804	803	1	2,216

65. Increase occurs only in the Central Division of Kánara and Dhárwár, and it is due (*a*) to illegal lopping of trees for *soppu* and (*b*) to unauthorized felling of wood.

66. On the other hand, there is a marked diminution in the Belgaum Division, where there was a decrease in the number of offences on account of firewood removed from the forest without passes, due to somewhat greater severity in dealing with offenders.

67. The large decrease in Kolába is apparently owing to a greater proportion of cases having been taken into Court.

68. No appeal was made to the Conservator against any of the decisions passed in the cases compounded.

69. Statement 50 B shows the number of cases in which damages amounting to one rupee, two rupees, and so on up to the maximum, were recovered under Section 67 of the Forest Act, during the year.

70. A statement showing the number of cases compounded and taken into Court is given below :—

No.	Division.	Taken into Court.		Compounded under Section 67.		Total number of cases.	
		1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.
1	Northern Division of Kánara ...	17	21	22	8	39	29
2	Central Division of Kánara ...	8	20	56	60	64	80
3	Southern Division of Kánara ...	18	103	98	45	116	148
4	Belgaum	49	36	361	210	410	246
5	Dhárwár	15	7	52	65	67	72
6	Bijápur	11	8	76	49	87	57
7	Kolába	49	122	266	167	315	289
8	Ratnágiri	27	29	121	199	148	228
	Total ...	194	346	1,052	803	1,246	1,149

71. The cases taken into Court during 1891-92 amounted to 346, and 11 were pending at the close of the year 1890-91. Of these, 252 were disposed of by Magistrates and 105 remained undecided at the close of the year under report.

72. The number of animals impounded during 1891-92 in open and closed forests is given below :—

No.	Division.	Number of Animals impounded.		Total.	Remarks.
		In open Forests.	In closed Forests.		
1	Northern Division of Kánara ...	...	173	173	
2	Central Division of Kánara ...	346	194	540	
3	Southern Division of Kánara ...	121	122	243	
4	Belgaum	1,892	1,239	3,131	
5	Dhárwár	686	1,680	2,366	
6	Bijápur	1,279	...	1,279	
7	Kolába	...	763	763	
8	Ratnágiri	119	112	231	
	Total ...	4,443	4,283	8,726	

73. *Civil Suits.*—In the civil suit Gopi Mahábleshwarbhat *vs.* Sheshu Manju (paragraph 52 of the Administration Report for 1882-83) the High Court on appeal awarded the plaintiff one rupee nominal damages, each party to bear his own cost.

FOREST FIRES.

74. During the year special measures of fire protection were adopted as usual in the three Divisions of Kánara and in Belgaum and Dhárwár. In some of the divisions a larger area was fire-traced than in the year before.

75. In Bijápur no area was specially protected. The Divisional Officer reports that as the season was exceptionally dry and there was no grass on the hills after January, there was no need to fire-trace the forests, and that it would have been impossible to adopt any measures. He further says that no fire entered any of the forests including *Kurans*.

76. In Kolába no steps appear to have been taken, and the Divisional Officer reports "it was considered unnecessary for any special measures to be taken," except in the two newly added ranges of Karjat and Khálápur, where, out of 19,407 acres attempted, 774 acres are reported to have been burnt.